THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Central Zoo Authority has not granted recognition to fourteen zoos in Karnataka.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A total amount of Rs. 76.50 lakhs has been released by Central Zoo Authority during 2001-2002 to the State Government of Karnataka for construction and managing the rescue centre. Further, an amount of Rs. 97.35 lakhs has been released by the Authority for improvement of zoos in Karnataka.

Global wanning

3388. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether, according to the recent findings of scientists, world-wide global warming has started affecting plant and animal life across the planet, as published in Nature Journal;

(b) whether the World's mean temperature has increased by around 0.6 degrees Celsius during the last three decades, affecting adversely the flora and fauna from the Equator to the Poles; and

(c) to what extent India has evolved a greenhouse policy, to check emissions of gases like Carbon dioxide etc.?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) According to a recent article published in the journal 'Nature', there is evidence of impacts of climate change on plant and animal life. As per theThird Assessment Report of Inter Governmental Panel on Climate Change, the global mean surface temperature has increased 0.6 ±0.2°C over the 20th century.

(c) Several policy initiatives have been taken by the Government in energy and transportation sectors to check emissions of gases like Carbon dioxide etc. The initiatives, among others, include improvement of the efficiency of conventional energy generation and use, development of major renewable energy programmes, promotion of clean coal and biomass energy technologies, conservation of forests, upgradation of automobile technology and improvement of fuel quality.